

Buffalo's Mark Twain

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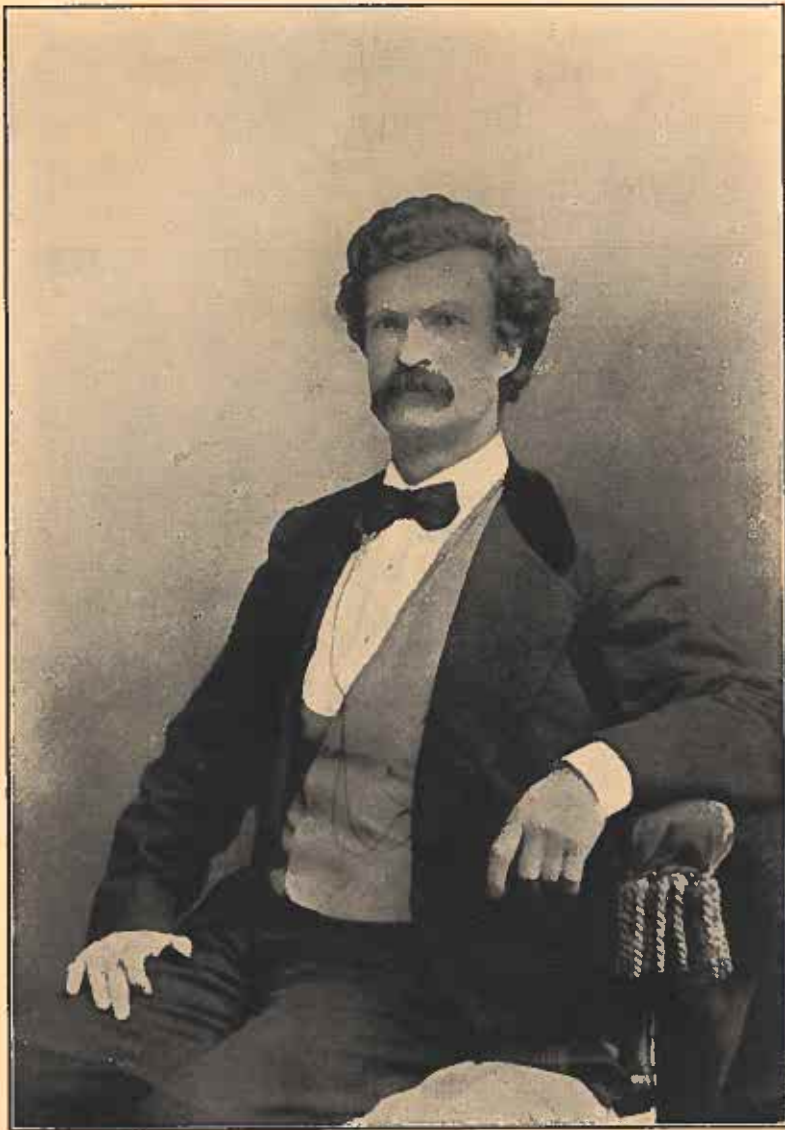
BUFFALO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain) From a photograph taken about 1869
Courtesy of Harper and Brothers, New York City

Buffalo's Mark Twain

AUGUST 1869 ~ APRIL 1871

LEARNED HISTORIANS have recorded the great battles and political struggles of nations but those who have written of the homely life of the people are the true chroniclers of the human race.

To England was given a Dickens; to France, a Balzac; and to America, her beloved Mark Twain, whose flashing bits of humor and sage philosophy have endeared him to the people of the world.

On November 30, 1835, he was born in Florida, Missouri, the son of John and Jane Clemens. When young Sam was about four years of age, the family moved to Hannibal, Missouri, on the banks of the Mississippi River. In that little hamlet of glorious memory dwelt the characters whom Clemens later immortalized in "Tom Sawyer" and "Huckleberry Finn"—Tom Blankenship (Huck Finn), Henry Clemens (Sid), Laura Hawkins (Becky Thatcher), John Briggs (Joe Harper), and Uncle Dan'l (Nigger Jim).

This town was the scene of Samuel Clemens' schooldays and, after the death of his father in 1847, of his early training as an apprentice to Joseph P. Ament, the printer.

Later, he became associated with his brother Orion on the Hannibal "Journal" and when the elder Clemens was absent on business, Sam served as editor. His varied experiences in newspaper life, however, could not satisfy his longing for the "old river" and in 1857, we find him on the "Paul Jones," a Mississippi packet, learning the trade of a pilot under the tutelage of Horace Bixby.

It was during his river days that young Clemens absorbed the marvelous atmosphere which permeates all of his stories of that great and romantic stream.

The dark days of '61 put an end to his piloting. As a member of the Confederate Army, he had a brief military experience which was followed by a return to newspaper work and the long journey to the west coast. His experiences at this period included an assignment on the "Morning Call" in San Francisco, that was soon improved by a staff position on the "Californian." It was while in the office of the latter paper that Mark Twain was associated

with Bret Harte and became interested in prospecting. At this period also, he became acquainted with Charles Webb, the founder of the "Californian," who later published Mark Twain's first book, "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County and other Sketches." This volume which came off the press in the early part of the year 1867, was an immediate success and is now one of the most difficult to obtain in its original issue (with the perfect "i" in "this," last line, page 198.)

On June 8, 1867, Samuel Clemens embarked with his congenial fellow-passengers on the cruise which he made famous—the "Quaker City" Mediterranean excursion. It was on this trip that he collected the material for one of his most popular books "The Innocents Abroad."

Among the passengers was young Charles Langdon of Elmira, New York. Through a friendship formed on the voyage, Samuel Clemens visited the Langdons in Elmira and there met the charming Olivia, who later became his wife.

The lecture platform and the writing of the new book, brightened by the days of courtship filled the early months of the year 1869. In July, the first copy of "The Innocents Abroad" was issued and so great was the success of the work that it was later translated into many languages.

In 1869, A. M. Clapp, H. H. Clapp, J. N. Larned, George H. Selkirk and Thomas Kennett were the owners of the "Buffalo Express." Samuel L. Clemens, through the financial assistance of his future father-in-law, Jervis Langdon, purchased Kennett's interest in the paper and the Messrs. Clapp sold out to the other partners.

The nom de plume Mark Twain was firmly established as the popular designation of Samuel Clemens when he came to Buffalo in August 1869 to take up his duties as associate editor of the old "Express," at 14 East Swan St. On Saturday evening, the 14th, the staff of the newspaper gave a dinner in honor of the new proprietor, and the following week, he began his editorial duties, sharing a table which served as a desk with Josephus N. Larned. The latter's editorial of August 16th announced that Samuel L. Clemens had purchased a share in the paper and thereafter the readers would enjoy the writings "of the most purely humorous pen that is wielded in American journalism."

Mark Twain's introductory article to the subscribers of the "Buffalo Express" was entitled "Salutatory"* and appeared in the issue of August 21st. It occupied two-thirds of a column, setting forth a humorous rendering of the new editor's intentions, and promising not to write "any poetry, unless I

*Printed in Vol. XIX Buffalo Historical Publications, 1915.

conceive a spite against the subscribers." With the jesting deleted, this article clearly states his journalistic platform which he followed through his career. His honest convictions on debated questions were plainly worded, without modification or restraint and his pen knew little idleness.

Mark Twain, as Buffalonians knew him, was a man of quiet, reserved disposition who worked without regard for office hours. From eight o'clock in the morning until ten in the evening or even past midnight he would sit at his desk in the old "Express" office scanning exchanges or writing comments and editorials.

As the daily temperature or influence of the muse necessitated he would toss aside his coat, vest, collar, tie and at times even his shoes to a resting place among the discarded exchanges upon the floor of the office.

He possessed above all a high sense of duty, a tender heart, a love of humanity and a hatred of all that was sham. His keen sense of humor, however, was ever present, as is apparent in the story that has been told many times of the occasion when he crossed Delaware Avenue one morning and approaching the verandah of a neighbor's home, introduced himself, apologized for not calling sooner and informed his astonished host and hostess that their house was on fire.

In the same issue with "Salutatory" were printed two other contributions under the name of Mark Twain, "Napoleon and Abdul" a sketch taken from "The Innocents Abroad," and "A Day at Niagara" later reprinted as "Niagara" in "Sketches, New and Old." "Journalism in Tennessee", "The Last Words of Great Men", and "The Wild Man Interviewed" were among the humorist's articles which were printed in the newspaper during the month of September.

The "Express" received many complimentary press notices of the new acquisition to its staff. Among these was the following from "Petroleum Nasby" (D. R. Locke) in Nasby's Blade: "Mark Twain, or rather Samuel L. Clemens, the greatest humorous writer America has ever produced, and one of the most genial great-souled, splendid fellows in the world, has purchased an interest in the Buffalo Express. The Express has always been a good paper—it will henceforth be better."

Throughout the files of the old "Express" are many editorials and comments which being unsigned have failed to be numbered among Mark Twain's contributions. A bibliography of these would take more space than can be devoted to the present article. His ready wit and facile pen are recognizable in many departments of the paper during the first year of his connection with the staff.

For some time prior to his arrival, a column bearing the caption "People and Things" had been appearing daily in the paper. During the first few days of Clemens' editorship this feature suddenly changed from a newspaper item of ordinary interest to a column composed of paragraphs of satire and wit that could only have issued from the pen of the great humorist. The issue of August 25th definitely establishes the author, for there under the title of "People and Things" is found the story of John Wagner of Buffalo which later was printed in "Sketches New and Old" under the title of "A Fine Old Man," and in the issue of September 2nd the article "The Wonderful Two-Headed Girl" is definitely the work of Twain.

Soon after Samuel Clemens began his editorial duties on the paper, a Professor Jenkins who had acquired the title of "The Canadian Blondin" performed daring feats on a specially constructed bicycle, on a tight rope across the gorge at Niagara Falls. The event was reported in the "Express" and on the 26th of August, this article appears under the caption, "In Trouble:"

"The following telegram explains itself:

"NIAGARA FALLS, Aug. 26.

"To the Editor of the Express:

"I borrowed Jenkins' velocipede and tried the slack rope performance over Niagara, but it is only a partial success. I have got to the middle, two hundred and twenty feet above the river, as well as Jenkins or any other man could do it, but I cannot get any farther. I stopped like that other ass to have my picture taken, and I can't get her started again. I cannot back up or go ahead. I have been roosting between heaven and earth for a matter of eighteen hours now. My position is exceedingly ridiculous, not to say uncomfortable. Near-sighted English sportsmen are practicing on me with shot-guns and such things because they take me for some sort of a curious bird—and I am—I am a rooster. They have torn my clothes a good deal. How am I going to get out of this? I have been suspended long enough—I wish to suspend the exhibition for a while, now. But if this thing is going to be permanent, please send me an umbrella. It is warm here.

"P.S.—Does my salary go on? Because I was instructed to try this atrocious experiment by one of the EXPRESS firm. He said it would be a good card for the paper if I succeeded—but this wretched thing won't budge, you understand. I was to have been married to-day. I wish I was out of this.

"Yours, in great suspense,

"MICHAEL J. MURPHY,

"Reporter, EXPRESS."

"Mark Twain in a Fix" is the heading of an article in the issue of September 9, purporting to be reprinted from the Rochester Express, stating that Mark Twain and not Michael J. Murphy was the man on Professor Jenkins' rope. Who but Samuel Clemens on the "Express" at that period could have been the author of these articles?

The tireless pen of Clemens was busy not only in the preparation of special articles and editorials but occasional City Notes and Police Reports testify to its presence. The Police column will suddenly be transformed from a series of brief reports to paragraphs of humorous comments as on September 3rd: "John Johnson, the meanest black man alive—. The thief, whose unfortunate resemblance to an illustrious namesake is marked in a disposition to betray trust in the most diligent and conscientious manner, will retire for a time into dignified seclusion at Auburn—his former residence, he will not be a candidate for any office."

Near the old "Express" office was the sanctum of Dr. A. T. Bull, a close friend of J. N. Larned. It was the habit of Larned and Clemens to send their copy to the press room at the close of the forms and adjourn to Dr. Bull's office until time for the proofs to be returned for the editors' penciling. Often David Gray would join the circle and the interim was passed with cards or enlivened with witty stories.

On the 30th of that month there was presented in the Buffalo Express what was and is, beyond doubt, one of the most famous editorials ever printed in any local newspaper. Mr. Larned, who was the political editor, was absent from the city, attending the Republican Convention in Saratoga. George William Curtis was the choice of the delegates to head the ticket as nominee of the Republican party for Secretary of State, and when the news of this choice reached the office of the "Express" there was no one to write the customary editorial but Mark Twain, and he composed "The Ticket—Explanation,"* one of the most astonishing political comments ever written, concluding with, "In the meantime I go for George William Curtis, and take the chances."

Upon returning the following day, Mr. Larned defended the cause of Mr. Curtis in an article of extreme dignity and as a climax to the comedy—Curtis declined the nomination.

Prince Arthur of Connaught was visiting Canada in the year 1869, and in the latter part of September, being in the vicinity, decided to cross the border to Buffalo without previous publicity. The Prince, accompanied by the Governor General of Canada, and other notables, arrived at the Tift House on the 27th where a lunch had been hastily arranged for the

*This item is printed in Vol. XIX—Buffalo Historical Society Publications, 1915.

royal party and five invited guests including Ex-President Fillmore.

In an unsigned article in the "Express" on September 28, 1869, Mark Twain reported the affair under the caption of "Arthur." The composition is overflowing with flashes of the humorous comment that so characterized all of his writings.

The article begins with a long preamble on the ancestry of the prince—followed by "The Prince's Movements.—It is impossible to spread him over much ground, from the fact that he did not stay with us long, and did nothing but what any mortal might have done, while he did stay—for he only took lunch, and then got out of the United States again, right away."

As one reads the witty paragraphs finding comments like the following there is no doubt as to the writer: "Prince Arthur looks pleasant and agreeable, however. He has a good, reliable, tenacious appetite, of about two-king capacity. He was the last man to lay down his knife and fork..... It was Veni, Vidi, Vici with him. He came—he saw that lunch—he conquered it."

In describing the Prince, the article states: "He made no remarks to us; did not ask us to dinner; walked right by us; never inquired our opinion about any subject under the sun; and when his luncheon was over got into his carriage and drove off in the coolest way in the world without ever saying a word—and yet he could not know but that that was the last time he might ever see us. But if he can stand it, we can."

Prince Arthur, however, did see Mark Twain again, for in 1907 at Oxford University Samuel Langhorne Clemens in company with Prince Arthur of Connaught marched in solemn procession to the Sheltonian Theater where they with several other notables received honorary degrees.

The "Express" of October 7th and 9th contained a glowing tribute to Mark Twain in press comments on his new book "The Innocents Abroad" and the paper of October 31st announced that 80,000 copies of the volume had been sold.

On October 16th, the first of a series of travel letters written by Clemens appeared in the paper. The series was entitled "Around the World" and the first letter bore the sub-title of "The Dead Sea." Although Twain wrote in the first person Professor D. N. Ford was the actual traveler. This series was continued with intervals until March, 1870.

During the winter of 1869, Mark Twain made many visits at the Langdon's in Elmira and spent some time on lecture tours.

In January, 1870, "An Awful Terrible Romance" appeared in the columns of his paper. This article combined with his "Burlesque Autobiography" was published in 1871 by Sheldon & Co., New York City, in a

small volume, which in its first printing has now become a very rare item.

On the evening of February 2, 1870, at the home of the bride in Elmira, New York, Samuel L. Clemens was united in marriage to Olivia Langdon.

The young couple had decided to reside in Buffalo. Mark Twain not knowing a great deal about the housing facilities of the city but determined upon an economical start in life had left the matter to Mr. Slee an agent of Mr. Langdon's in Buffalo, with instructions that he procure for him a modest boarding place in a locality that would be suitable for his bride. Slee had assured him that the matter had been attended to in accordance with his wishes. Mr. Langdon, however, had other plans for the young couple.

On the afternoon of the 3rd, the wedding party left Elmira bound for Buffalo. They were met at the station by Mr. Slee, who, as snow was falling, had ordered sleighs. As the party left the station, the conveyance containing the bride and groom, the driver having previously been instructed by Slee proceeded at a slow pace and was soon left far behind the others. The coachman then began to drive aimlessly around the city; as Twain remarked



House, 472 Delaware Ave., occupied by "Mark Twain" while in Buffalo, 1870-71

later, he did not believe that there was as much mileage in Buffalo as that horse traveled.

They finally turned into Delaware Avenue and stopped in front of No. 472. The house was ablaze with lights, and the friends who had preceded the bride and groom came down the steps. Servants hurried forward taking the wraps and valises from the bewildered Clemens. The latter having faith that Slee would carry out his instructions faithfully, little dreamed that this residence was to be his future home and was nonplussed at the whole proceeding. The bride placed her hand upon his arm and said, "Don't you understand Youth (her name for him) it is ours—all ours—the gift of father." Mr. Langdon then came forward carrying a small box containing the deed to the property which he presented to the happy couple. Mark Twain soon recovered his composure. Although there seems to be no record of his first remarks, it is chronicled that during the conversation he said: "Mr. Langdon, whenever you are in Buffalo, if it's twice a year, come right here. Bring your bag and stay over night if you want to. It sha'n't cost you a cent!"

This house, No. 472 Delaware Avenue, which was the first home of Mark Twain and his wife, still stands on its original location, the west side of Delaware Avenue near Virginia Street.

The newly wedded couple were exceedingly happy in their beautiful home during the first few months of their residence, little dreaming of the sorrows that fate had in store for them. Clemens refused several lecture engagements, practically deciding to abandon the platform entirely. They became great friends of David Gray, the editor of the "Courier" and distinguished Buffalo poet. John Hay was a friend of both and when he visited Buffalo these three shining lights of literature were as inseparable as the romantic Three Musketeers of Dumas.

Mark Twain denied through his columns, on March 8th, a rumor that he intended to leave Buffalo, stating: "The paragraph now going the rounds of the press to the effect that I am going to withdraw from Buffalo and the Buffalo Express is entirely foundationless. I am a permanency here. I am prospering well enough to please my friends and distress my enemies, and consequently am in a state of tranquil satisfaction. I will regard it as a favor if those journals that printed the item referred to will also mention this correction."

As if in memory of the old California days, articles by Mark Twain and Bret Harte were features of the "Express" of March 19th. The former contributed "The Mysterious Visit," while Harte's story "Brown of Calaveras" was reprinted from "Overland Monthly." In an unsigned article printed in

the same issue, Mark Twain, under the caption of "Literary," reviewed "Williams & Packards System of Penmanship," published by Slote, Woodman & Company of New York. The Senior member of that firm was Dan Slote who shared the stateroom with Samuel Clemens on the "Quaker City" and whose portrait appears on page 288 of "The Innocents Abroad." It was a real pleasure for the Express editor to write a complimentary review which was well earned by his companion of the memorable cruise.

On April 2nd, the sketch entitled "The Facts in the Great Landslide Case" was printed and on the 12th an article on agriculture, together with the announcement of Clemens' acceptance of a connection with the Galaxy Magazine. This contract was to contribute a series of articles under the heading of "Memoranda." These were printed later in Canada in pamphlet form.

In '70 when the Clemenses lived on Delaware Avenue, the old North Street Cemetery, on the southwest corner of North Street and Delaware Avenue, through neglect was in a disgraceful condition; tombstones had fallen and grass and weeds covered the plot. "The Curious Dream" printed in the "Express" of April 30th was suggested by this neglected burial place and, therefore, is one of Twain's local compositions. The sketch later was printed in England in book form by Rutledge & Company and also appeared in 1875 in "Sketches, Old and New."

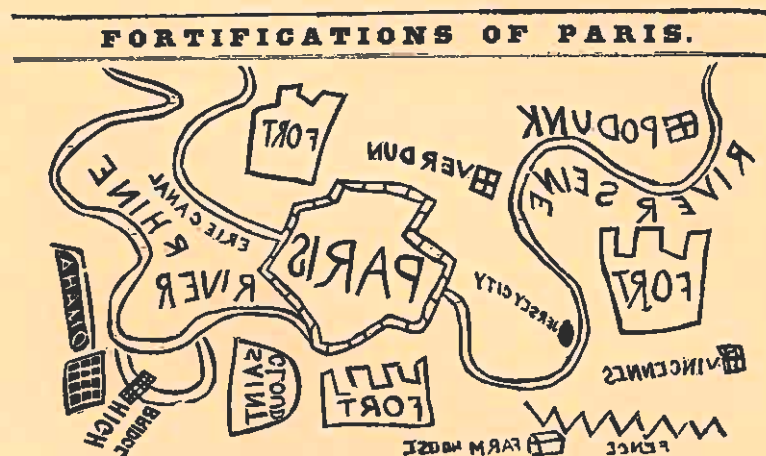
Mr. Langdon was taken ill in the early summer and died on the afternoon of August 6th. The apprehensive strain throughout his illness and the loss of a beloved parent proved a great shock to Mrs. Clemens and although a trip was contemplated, Mark Twain and his wife decided to remain in Buffalo. A school friend of Mrs. Clemens came to visit them and was taken ill with typhoid fever. She died on September 29th at their home. It was a summer of anxiety and tribulation, and in the midst of all this sorrow, it was the business of Samuel Clemens to write humorous contributions for his public, when his heart was sad.

During September public interest being centered on the Franco-Prussian War, Mark Twain produced his famous "Map of Paris" carving the block for the woodcut with his jack-knife. This item was printed in the "Express" on the 17th of that month, and the following Wednesday was evidently reprinted as a broadside, issued with the rural edition of the paper. This broadside a copy of which is in the possession of Mr. Irving Underhill appears to be extremely rare.

According to Mr. Larned, Mark Twain had as much enjoyment cutting the wood block for the map as its printing afforded the public. As the

humorist whittled and gouged the block in creating the masterpiece, he would chuckle in self-amusement at the formation of each new idea.

In his comments which accompany this item in the newspaper, Mark Twain states that he neglected to realize that the woodcut should have been carved in the reverse but if anyone wanted to study the map they might stand on their head or use a mirror. The unconnected river at "High Bridge" is accounted for as a slip of the engraving tool, as is the absence of several forts about Paris. With other humorous comments and a series of facetious testimonials from prominent personages the article closes. Clemens remarked* that the Prussian navy would doubtless attack Paris by way of the Erie Canal but the infantry was encamped back of the brewery (shown in the lower left hand corner of the drawing) and would never pass that building.



MARK TWAIN'S MAP OF PARIS

From Buffalo Express, September 17, 1870

Printed by permission of Harper and Brothers, New York City

The map and accompanying paragraphs was again reprinted in the "Galaxy" under the title of "Memoranda" in the issue of October, 1870. If the "Express" woodcut was used, as appears from the similarity of the prints, what became of it? Was it worn out and discarded?

The great success of "The Innocents Abroad" created a demand for another book from the pen of the humorist. Acceding to Bliss' entreaties, Mark Twain finally consented to write a volume to be published by the American Publishing Company, in Hartford, who had made such a success

*Express—October 15, 1870—(Reprinted from Galaxy.)

of "The Innocents Abroad." In July, he started writing the manuscript of a new book. It was delayed, however, and on a trip to Washington, Mark Twain met a newspaper man named Riley, whom he had known in the west. In considering material for a new book, this man began to figure prominently in his plans for a volume that would rival in popularity "The Innocents Abroad." Riley was to visit the diamond mines in Africa, furnish the background notes and Twain would write the book.

At first Riley refused but finally under financial pressure consented, made the trip and secured the notes,—but all to no avail. An accident and blood poisoning brought death to poor Riley, and the notes were lost. It was a hard blow to Mark Twain as his article of October 29th, 1870—"On Riley"—testifies.

A final decision was reached to write the story of the west and in September the first four chapters of "Roughing It" were written. Very little of this book was completed in Buffalo, troubles and sickness seemed to stalk his life and he was in no mood for writing.

On November 7th, in the Delaware Avenue home, his first child, Langdon, was prematurely born and for some time Mrs. Clemens, weakened by the strain of the last year, was near death's door.

That winter was a dreary period, Twain cancelled his "Memoranda" in April, 1871, and in the same month sold his interests in the "Express." It was his farewell to journalism. He was thoroughly tired of newspaper offices and the grind of writing weekly or monthly articles of humor when the conditions were anything but favorable. The Quarry Farm, the home of his sister-in-law in Elmira, was his refuge. It was there that he later, under more pleasant circumstances, wrote "Tom Sawyer." His home, however, was built in the famous literary circle in Hartford.

In 1893, Mr. Irving Underhill of Buffalo and his brother were editing the "Niagara Book." This volume was designed as a popular book on the Niagara Falls, containing articles by William Dean Howells and other famous writers of the day. Mr. Irving Underhill, however, desired to include a humorous story by Mark Twain. Having secured an appointment with the celebrated author, Mr. Underhill met him in a New York Hotel. After a friendly chat Twain promised to see if he had a manuscript that would answer the purpose, explaining that he really lacked the time to prepare a sketch. The result was that Mr. Underhill secured "Adam's Diary," which Mark Twain altered at that time, placing the Garden of Eden at Niagara Falls. It is a strange coincidence that this article, which, according to Albert Bigelow Paine, was a revision of an unfinished "Noah's Ark Book" written in Buffalo in the spring of

1870, at last reached the press for its first impression in that city as a part of the "Niagara Book." The copyright was later secured by Harper & Bros. and "Adam's Diary" was issued by them in book form in 1904.

If fate had been kinder to Mark Twain during his Buffalo residence more of his brilliant compositions might have claimed this city as their birth-place, but in spite of the adverse circumstances under which these articles were written many have lived to be named among his shorter masterpieces. As he likened David Gray to Sir Galahad, I have no doubt that the latter would have dubbed Samuel Clemens, Sir Launcelot of the letters, for he was ever ready to defend the right with the shafts of his humor or brilliant repartee.

To those who wish to read the complete life of this great American author through his varied successes, often against adverse circumstances, the splendid biography by Albert Bigelow Paine is recommended.

Among Mark Twain's contributions to the "Express" the following are noted. (This is not an attempt at a bibliography.)

- Salutory—August 21, 1869.
- A Day at Niagara—August 21, 1869.
- Napoleon and Abdul, a sketch from The Innocents Abroad—August 21, 1869.
- English Festivities and Minor Matters—August 28, 1869.
- Journalism in Tennessee—September 4, 1869.
- The Last Words of Great Men—September 11, 1869.
- The Wild Man Interviewed—September 18, 1869.
- People and Things—August 21, September 27, 1869.
- Rev. H. W. Beecher—His private habits—September 25, 1869.
- Arthur—(unsigned)—September 28, 1869.
- The Ticket—Explanation—September 30, 1869.
- The Latest Novelty—Mental Photographs—October 2, 1869.
- Around the World—Letter No. 1, The Dead Sea, October 16, 1869; Letter No. 2, Adventures in Hayti, October 30, 1869; Letter No. 3, California, November 13, 1869; Letter No. 4, California, Continued—December 11, 1869; Letter No. 5, California, Continued—December 18, 1869; Letter No. 6, Early Days in Nevada, January 8, 1870; Letter No. 7, Pacific Coast, Concluded—January 22, 1870; Letter No. 8, Dining With a Cannibal, January 29, 1870; Letter No. 9, The Pacific, February 12, 1870; Letter No. 10, Japan, March 5, 1870.
- Letter to California Pioneers—October 19, 1869.
- The Legend of the Capitoline Venus—October 23, 1869.
- Letter to Mark Twain, from Annie and his comment thereon—November 10, 1869.
- Browsing Around—November 27, 1869.
- Ye Cuban Patriot, A Calm Inspection of Him—December 25, 1869.
- An Awful Terrible Medieval Romance—January 1, 1870.

- A Ghost Story—January 15, 1870.
- George Francis Train—January 31, 1870.
- A Big Thing—The Richest Silver Mine in the World in Kentucky—March 12, 1870.
- A Mysterious Visit—March 19, 1870.
- Literary (unsigned)—March 19, 1870.
- The Facts in the Great Landslide Case—April 2, 1870.
- Mark Twain on Agriculture—His Acceptance of Connection with The Galaxy Magazine—April 12, 1870.
- The New Crime—Legislation Needed—April 16, 1870.
- The Story of the Good Little Boy who did not Prosper—(from Galaxy)—April 23, 1870.
- Curious Dream Containing a Moral—April 30, 1870.
- Personal—May 9, 1870.
- Our Precious Lunatic—May 14, 1870.
- More Distinction—June 4, 1870.
- The Editorial Office Bore—(From Galaxy)—June 25, 1870.
- How I Edited an Agricultural Paper (From Galaxy)—July 2, 1870.
- European War—July 25, 1870.
- Fortifications of Paris—September 17, 1870.
- Mark Twain at the President's Reception—October 1, 1870.
- Curious Relic for Sale—October 8, 1870.
- Mark Twain, His Map of the Fortifications of Paris—October 15, 1870.
- On Riley—Newspaper Correspondent—October 29, 1870.
- A Reminiscence of the Back Settlements—November 5, 1870.
- A General Reply—November 12, 1870.
- Running for Governor—November 19, 1870.
- My Watch—An Instructive little tale—November 26, 1870.
- An Entertaining Article—December 3, 1870.
- Dogberry in Washington—December 10, 1870.
- The Facts in the Case of George Fisher, Deceased—December 17, 1870.
- A Sad, Sad Business—December 24, 1870.
- The Danger of Lying in Bed—January 28, 1871.
- Various unsigned editorials, paragraphs, etc., throughout the period of Mark Twain's editorship.
- Some years later the "Express" reprinted many of the articles as a series of Sunday features.

Bibliography—

- Mark Twain, A Biography—Albert Bigelow Paine.
- Files of the "Buffalo Express"—Buffalo Historical Society Library.
- Grateful acknowledgements to Harper & Brothers, New York City for photographs and to Mr. Irving Underhill for many helpful facts and suggestions.